

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2 – 22 are pending in the application. Claim 1 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and the subject matter of claim 1 is added to claims 2, 9, and 10, which are rewritten in independent form. Claims 3, 8 and 11 – 13 are amended to depend from claim 2. Claim 12 is also amended to more clearly define the invention. Claims 14 and 19 are amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2. Support for the amendments is found in the specification. No new matter is added.

Applicants have thoroughly reviewed the outstanding Office Action including the Examiner's remarks and the references cited therein. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, this reply is believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action, and all the pending claims at issue are believed to be patentable over the cited references.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

In the outstanding Office Action claim 11 was objected to because claim 11 must be depended on claim 1 or claim 10. Claim 1 has been canceled and claim 11 has been amended to depend from claim 2. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to claim 11 has been obviated. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. §112

In the outstanding Office Action, claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, because the phrase “such as” rendered the claim indefinite. Applicants have amended

claim 12 to remove the phrase “such as” and to more clearly define the invention. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. §102

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1, 3-8, and 11-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Knapp, U.S. Patent No. 6,009,360 (hereinafter referred to as “Knapp”). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As recited in Applicants’ independent claim 14, the apparatus for sensing and reporting a synchronizing event from a diesel engine includes means for sensing transient mechanical strain events in a tube, means for converting a detected strain event from a mechanical to an electrical phenomenon, means for amplifying and conditioning an electrical phenomenon into a conventional electrical signal comparable to one normally used to provide an input to a unit of engine test apparatus, means for receiving an analog voltage input signal, means for permitting user input of control commands, programmable means for permitting application of input signals to result in different responses in accordance with changed operational settings, means for responding to the input signal, and means for displaying the equivalent of an oscilloscope waveform in response to a time-variant analog input voltage signal.

As recited in Applicants’ independent claim 19, the method for sensing and reporting a synchronizing event from a diesel engine includes the steps of sensing transient mechanical strain events in a metallic tube carrying motor fuel, converting a detected transient strain event from a mechanical to an electrical phenomenon, adjusting the amplitude and source impedance of a transient electrical phenomenon to correspond to those characteristics as observable in an electrical signal normally used to provide an input to a unit of engine test apparatus, receiving an

analog voltage input signal, receiving user input of control commands, applying input signals to result in different responses in accordance with changed operational settings, responding to the input signal, and displaying the equivalent of an oscilloscope waveform in response to a time-variant analog input voltage signal.

Knapp is directed to an analyzer system including a compensator, a pre-analyzer, a pre-rasterizer, an analyzer processor, a dual-ported RAM, a separately operable computer, a mixer and a display (see Knapp, col. 3, line 25 through col. 4, line 20). Therefore, as is apparent from Knapp, no disclosure or suggestion of means for receiving an analog voltage input signal, means for permitting user input of control commands, programmable means for permitting application of input signals to result in different responses in accordance with changed operational settings, and means for responding to the input signal, as recited in independent claim 14, is provided. Thus, Knapp does not disclose or suggest all the claimed features of Applicants' independent claim 14.

Likewise, as is apparent from Knapp, no disclosure or suggestion of the steps of receiving an analog voltage input signal, receiving user input of control commands, applying input signals to result in different responses in accordance with changed operational settings, responding to the input signal, and displaying the equivalent of an oscilloscope waveform in response to a time-variant analog input voltage signal, as recited in independent claim 19, is provided. Thus, Knapp does not disclose or suggest all the claimed features of Applicants' independent claim 19.

As discussed in the next section, claim 2 is rewritten in an allowable independent form. Claim 1 is canceled and claims 3, 8 and 11-13 are amended to depend from claim 2. Thus, claims 3-8 and 11-13 depend from independent claim 2; claims 15-18 depend from independent

claim 14; and claims 20-22 depend from independent claim 19. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 2, 9 and 10 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, with the qualification that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Allowance of these claims by the Examiner is appreciated. Applicants have amended claims 2, 9 and 10 in independent form including all of the limitations of former claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to claims 2, 9 and 10 has been obviated. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request that all the objections and rejections to the claims be removed and that the claims pass to allowance. If, for any reason, the Examiner disagrees, please call the undersigned attorney at 202-861-1567 in an effort to resolve any matter still outstanding before issuing another action. The undersigned Attorney is confident that any issue which might remain can readily be worked out be telephone.

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Patent

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036 with reference to our Docket No. 87355.9060.

Respectfully submitted,
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